

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 VIENTI 00831 040515Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----090094 040516Z /10
P 040445Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9463

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 0831

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OREP
SUBJECT: CODEL MONTGOMERY'S VISIT TO VIENTIANE

REF: VIENTIANE 0780

1. IN AN EFFORT TO ELICIT A FORMAL RESPONSE FROM THE LAO, THE CHARGE SENT A NOTE TO THE CHIEF PROTOCOL AUGUST 3 ASKING IF HE HAD ANY NEWS ON THE LAO GOVERNMENT'S REACTION TO THE CODEL MONTGOMERY VISIT TO VIENTIANE AT THE END OF AUGUST.

2. WE HAVE RECEIVED NO RESPONSE AS YET, BUT IN THE COURSE OF AN INFORMAL AUGUST 3 ENCOUNTER WITH SOUKTHAVONE KEOLA, ACTING CHEF DE CABINET (UNDER SECRETARY) OF THE LAO FOREIGN MINISTRY, HE VOLUNTEERED THAT THE LAO WERE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE VISIT. SOUKTHAVONE SAID HE THOUGHT IT WOULD DO MUCH TOWARD IMPROVING RELATIONS BETWEEN THE LPDR AND THE U.S.

3. THE CHARGE SAID HE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING AN OFFICIAL RESPONSE FROM THE LAO SO THAT WE MIGHT PROCEED WITH THE NECESSARY ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS. SOUKTHAVONE SAID THAT HE WOULD SEE THAT WE RECEIVED A FORMAL ANSWER.

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4. ACTION REQUESTED: ALTHOUGH A FORMAL LAO CLEARANCE HAS NOT YET BEEN RECEIVED, WE THINK THAT PLATTANA'S (REFTEL) AND SOUKTHAVONE'S COMMENTS MAKE IT LIKELY THAT IT WILL BE FORTHCOMING. FOR PLANNING PURPOSES, WE WOULD THUS APPRECIATE RECEIVING TENTATIVE ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TIMES AND ANY SPECIAL CODEL INTERESTS OR REQUIREMENTS.

WE WILL THEN PREPARE A SUGGESTED PROGRAM FOR THE
DEPARTMENT'S AND THE CODEL'S APPROVAL.
ROBERTS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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